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# Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 19 | Humidity 73% Partly Cloudy Sensex 63,782 | Nifty 19,047 | Gold 61,260 | Silver 71,802 | Dollar 83.41 | Euro 88.25 | GBP 101.16

## Why suburban rail should explore elevated tracks, tunnels, rerouting to minimise ecological impact over proposed felling of 2,000 trees

# MAKE LIKE A TREE

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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has called for objections from the public to the proposed cutting down of around 2,000 trees along the Outer Ring Road to facilitate the suburban rail project. Suburban rail is aimed at decongesting roads in the city.

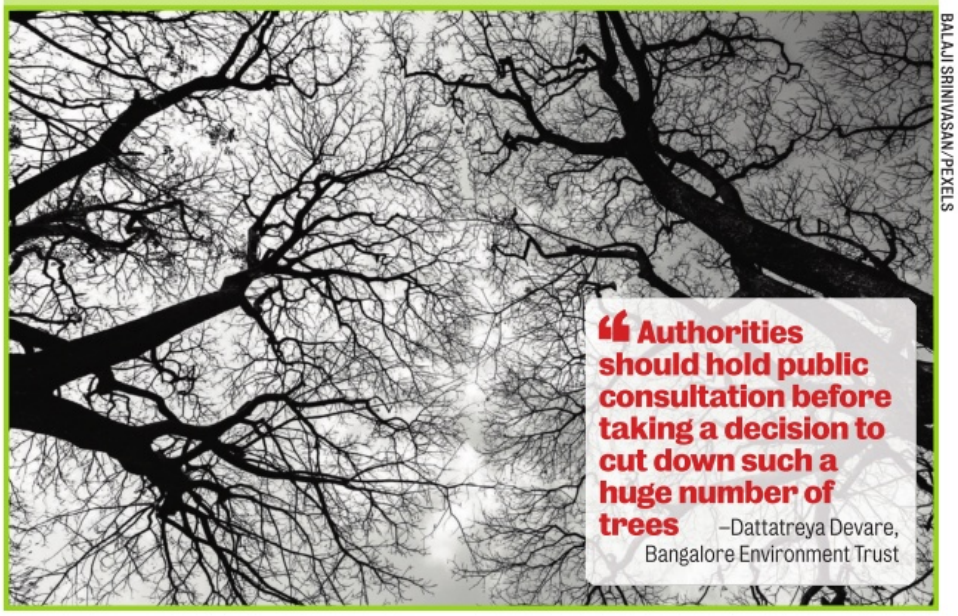
However, environmentalists want the authorities to find alternatives to the rampant tree-felling in the name of infrastructure development.

They said the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project is undoubtedly a significant step towards improving the city's transport infrastructure but it is crucial to strike a balance between development and environmental conservation.

The environmentalists stressed that the pressing concern is the potential felling of trees for this ambitious project. The trees, they underlined, often regarded as earth's lungs, play a vital role in maintaining ecological equilibrium. According to Avanthi Rao, an environmental activist, trees are pivotal in mitigating pollution, providing oxygen, and supporting biodiversity.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

### 'Retaining 33% green cover in city a must'


"Authorities should hold public consultation before taking a decision to cut down such a huge number of trees –Dattatreya Devare, Bangalore Environment Trust

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## 2 THINGS TO DO

### 01 Dramatic delights

Enjoy a lively evening at the Ranga Shankara Theatre Festival with "Patigalum Pazhamozhigalum (Old Ladies and Proverbs)," a hilarious play featuring male actors dressed as witty old women, complete with audience interaction. **Where: Ranga Shankara**
**When: October 30, 7.30 pm**

### 02 Artistic heritage

Discover the artistic heritage at The National Gallery of Modern Art, Bengaluru, with the "Haripura Panels-Nandalal Bose" exhibition, showcasing 77 iconic panels and the Constitution of India manuscript.
**Where: National Gallery of Modern Art;**
**When: November 3, 3.30 pm**

## Pink saree run

October is marked as breast cancer awareness month to raise awareness about the disease. To address the growing health concerns of breast cancer and to generate awareness about the importance of its early detection, the Oncology department at Apollo Hospital Bannerghatta Road organised a Pink Saree Run on Sunday. Dr Manish Mattoo-CEO, Apollo Hospitals-Karnataka, Dr Jayanti Thumsi, Lead Surgeon - Breast Oncology, Apollo Cancer Centre, and Dr Vijay Agarwal, Lead and Senior Consultant, Medical Oncologist at Apollo Cancer Centres, Bangalore flagged off the event. The event was aimed at drawing the

attention of women to the critical topic of breast cancer, debunking the various myths involved and educating women about the importance of self-examination and mammograms. The message was loud and clear, "Together, we can work towards a future where breast cancer is no longer a silent threat, and more women can survive and thrive after breast cancer treatment."

# Wings over Yelahanka: Dragonflies in spotlight

## Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake surveys capture 33 Dragonfly species over three years

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As part of the Dragonfly Festival, field surveys are underway at Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake to document the dragonflies and damselflies in the city. Six to eight surveys are conducted between September and November each year. Over the past three years, 33 species of dragonflies and damselflies have been identified at Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake.

In Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake, WWF-INDIA has collaborated with Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake and Bird Conservation Trust (YPLBCT) and in support from Karnataka Forest Department to carry out the surveys. Participants involved in the lake survey are from diverse groups - residents, naturalists, teaching professionals, Lake Mitras, and students from Government First Grade College Yelahanka, Mount Carmel College and Christ University. In the dragonfly festival held in 2021, over 22 species were recorded. The following year, 28 species were recorded. So far, in 2023, already 30 species have been recorded, and the survey is still ongoing for the year. Altogether, 33 species were recorded, 24 species in dragon selfies and damselflies in 9 species.

Lohit YT, Specialist, Rivers and Wetlands, WWG India, said, "The term Odonata is derived from the Greek word "Odonto," which means "tooth." This name originates from the presence of strong mandibular teeth in adult Odonata. Odonata is categorised into three suborders, with Dragonflies and Damselflies being the well-known suborders. Globally, there are approximately 6,256 species of Odonata, and in India, one can find around 490 species belonging to 18 different families. Odonata are not only visually captivating insects with vibrant colours but also pose no harm to humans. They play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance by preying on flies, mosquitoes, and other blood-sucking insects. They are one of the most successful hunters in the animal kingdom with a success rate of 97%."

Some species recorded in the city are elephant emperor, crimson March glider, pied pappy skimmer, common club tail, green marsh hawk, wandering glider and others.

Lohit added, "Odonates, which include Dragonflies and Damselflies, are excellent bio-indicators of lake health. The diversity and abundance of odonate species can provide valuable insights into the water quality of lakes. Bangalore has already lost many pollution-sensitive species due to urban runoff and other threats like habitat loss and climate change impacting these fascinating insects."

This apart, two lakes are covered in Mysuru Karanji kere, Thippayanakere, to conduct the survey.

Field surveys are underway at Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake to document the dragonflies and damselflies in the city

**Did you know**
Odonates are also excellent fliers and can fly forwards, backwards, hover, and take off vertically. A species called Wandering Glider (Pantala flavescens) migrates from Africa to Asia up to 18,000 Km and is considered the largest migration in the insect world.

**"The diversity and abundance of odonate species can provide valuable insights into the water quality of lakes**
– Lohit YT, WWG India

# Snap of genius: Vihaan's wildlife photo glory

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Vihaan, a fifth-grade student at Kumarans School, has achieved the Category Winner title in the under-10 age group of the esteemed Wildlife Photographer of the Year (WPY) competition, organised by the Natural History Museum, London. Vihaan's remarkable photographic skills and commitment to capturing the wonders of the natural world have earned him this prestigious recognition.

Vihaan's journey into the world of photography began at the tender age of seven, under the guidance of his father, Vikas TR, a passionate wildlife enthusiast. Inspired by his father's love for nature and photography, Vihaan developed a deep connection with the environment and embarked on his photographic adventure. The 10-year-old told Bangalore Mirror that his winning photograph was captured when he was out on a trip with his father and friends to Nallur tamarind grove, about 40 km away from Bengaluru, very close to the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

The Nallur tamarind grove is a 54-acre biodiversity heritage site with over 300 tamarind trees believed to have been planted during the reign of King Rajendra Chola in the 12th century. The grove is also home to a temple dedicated to Chennakeshava. "The ruined temple is adorned with depictions from the life of Krishna. The image has been taken there," Vihaan said while adding that the wildlife captured in the frame is an ornamental tree trunk spider. The premises are home to more than 60 species of flora and fauna, including pangolin, slender loris, sunbird, Russell's viper, cobra, banyan, wood apple and several other varieties of trees.

The WPY competition, hosted by the Natural History Museum, London, is among the most competitive platforms for wildlife photographers worldwide. It attracts submissions from photographers of all ages and backgrounds, representing more than half of the countries across the globe. This year, the competition received a staggering 50,000 images, each capturing the diversity of the natural world. Out of this vast pool of entries, only 100 images were short listed for recognition and awards. Vihaan's image will be part of the WPY59 collection. It will be presented in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition at the Natural History Museum in October, which tours annually to around 25 venues across four continents.

**Saviours march:** Members of 'Bengaluru Hudugaru' organised a walkathon, to spread awareness about Vrishabhavati River from Sankey lake on Sunday morning

# Blaze at Haj Bhavan building

A massive fire started at the recently constructed Haj Bhavan building on Thanisandra Main Road, close to Hegdenagar, on Saturday night. There were no casualties.

The assembly hall on the first floor caught fire around 10 pm, police said. The fire then spread to other areas of the building. Thirteen fire tenders were dispatched and kept on duty during the night. Preliminary investigations have indicated that the fire may have been started due to a short circuit.

About 15 employees were on the second floor when smoke began to emerge from the assembly hall, which can accommodate 900 people in seats, according to district fire inspector Manjunath. The recently built Bhavan is a three-storied structure. Thick smoke was observed by the workers when they were repairing electrical equipment. Everyone left the premises in time to avoid a major mishap.

Smoke billows out of the Haj Bhavan building

# Man attacked, abused for urging proper parking

## Victim says neighbour assaulted him, spat on him, used casteist slur, but police yet to act on complaint filed week ago

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A Dalit man was brutally assaulted, spat on, threatened and abused for asking his neighbour to park their vehicle ahead as it was blocking other vehicle movement on the road. The victim, Karthik, claims that the man also abused him using a casteist slur and then spat on his face.

A case was registered in HSR Layout police station under Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

The victim said that he noticed vehicles parked on the road when he was passing by the narrow road. The alleged accused is said to have been performing a pooja on the road. "I told them that they should tuck in the vehicle away from the road so that it doesn't create a traffic jam," he told BM.

Karthik said his neighbour then approached him. "How can people of your community tell us what to do, he asked," said Karthik. The man then attacked Karthik till he was badly injured.

"At first I couldn't understand what was happening, I was shocked. Then the man held me by my neck and spat on my face multiple times," he added.

The family of the accused was watching the man getting beaten and his son and wife were supporting the actions of the accused, asking him to hit the victim more, it is alleged.

"People who were there told me that his son also hit me, but after being hit on my face I couldn't see that," said Karthik.

The victim then went to a local hospital and later went to the police station.

He has also alleged that though the incident happened on October 23, the police haven't taken any action so far.

Road-parking in city

> **All the neighbours are supportive, we have told the police that they can take the video from us. But till now, nobody has approached us**
>
> –Karthik, victim

"It saddens me that despite the issue being so serious, the police didn't even check CCTV cameras. All the neighbours are supportive, we have told the police that they can take the video from us. But still nobody has approached us," said the victim's neighbour Kavitha Reddy.

Following the case registration, the man has also said that he was sent a notice by BBMP for building violations.

The civic agency sent him a notice within two days of the case being filed. "The accused is an influential person of the area. I think he contacted the civic agency regarding the violation. I keep complaining about building violations in the area all the time, but not even one time has the BBMP sent a notice to anyone. But suddenly, a case has been registered against him and now BBMP is sending notices. It seems fishy," said Kavitha.

Other neighbours have also alleged the BBMP didn't take any action against potholes or other complaints.

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# Commuters anxiously wait, while buses stray

## Commuters in Mahadevapura grapple with BMTC buses bypassing designated shelters, resulting in traffic congestion at Hope Farm junction, Kadugodi Tree Park

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File photo of unscientific bus stops causing chaos at multiple key junctions in various parts of Yelahanka, including the NES bus stop on Doddaballapur Road

Numerous commuters in Mahadevapura are experiencing issues with BMTC buses not stopping at the designated bus shelters. This poses public safety risks as people wait on the roads while others scramble to catch buses that stop ahead. This has resulted in traffic congestion at the Hope Farm junction and Tree Park. Commuters have called on BMTC to intervene and instruct their drivers.

According to the commuters, the buses coming to the Hope Farm junction do not stop at the shelter but near the free left turn ahead of the junction. Now, this has resulted in everyday traffic congestion, wherein the other vehicles coming from behind are forced to stop, and it creates a traffic block in no time. A similar situation is now being observed at the Kadugodi Tree Park, where the buses are not stopping at the designated stop.

Anjali Saini, a resident of Whitefield, said, " The Hope Farm junction is one of the busiest junctions, and when the buses are not stopping at the bus stop, it is resulting in traffic piling up and is an everyday chaos. The bus stop at Hope Farm has been there for around eight years. However, there was no bus shelter; after following up with the officials, a bus shelter was installed three months ago. However, there was no roof to the bus shelter, which resulted in many people getting drenched in the rain waiting for buses. Days later, the roof was added. However, the public's safety is not considered, as when the buses tend to stop ahead of the bus shelter, people start running towards the bus on the road, or they are waiting on the road for the buses. As this is one of the important bus stations with many connecting bus routes, the drivers should stop the bus at the shelter. Similar is the situation at the Kadugodi tree park, and another issue is that the BMTC buses are parked at ITPL road during mornings and evenings, occupying one side of the stretch."

In this regard, a meeting was also held by the concerned commuters along with BMTC and highlighted the issue to the BMTC depot manager at Vydehi depot. He intervened and appointed BMTC Sarathi vehicles to ensure that the rules were followed and also to sensitise drivers. However, according to the commuters, initially, for a week, the situation was under control, but they were back to the same problem again.

> **"When the buses tend to stop ahead of the bus shelter, people start running towards the bus, or they are waiting on the road** – Anjali Saini, a resident

Apart from this, residents also pointed out that it is important to get road markings done at bus stops to indicate the area is for buses to stop only. "In bigger bus stops such as Marathahalli, Kundanahalli, Hope Farm, Sarjapur Road from Iblur to Kodathi where multiple buses stop at the same time, 2-3 rectangles marked in yellow with bus stop written on it should be drawn to allow buses to stop at the same space. There are times when autos and cabs obstruct access to the bus shelter for passengers to safely alight," said Saini.

Back in August, the residents also wrote to Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, highlighting adding bus shelters in major junctions based on commuter strength and contractor to maintain bus shelters as per advertising contract specifications.

Some junctions, like Marathahalli and KR Puram Sarjapur Road near Iblur junction and Kasavanahalli Road near Play Arena, do not have proper bus shelters.

# Budgeted for better paths, Bengaluru's footpaths still falter

In the BBMP's 2023 budget, a significant allocation was made for footpath repair and maintenance, with each ward receiving Rs 75 lakh. Despite this, recurring issues with deteriorating footpaths have raised concerns among residents.

Residents have reported problems ranging from collapsed pathways to missing sections, seriously threatening public safety and accessibility. The Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP) has called for immediate footpath repairs in various areas, including Sarjapur Road near the bus stop, Trinity Acres and Woods Apartment in Bellandur, and Shubh Enclave on Harlur Road.

One of the pressing issues is the collapse of a footpath section into a drain near the Sarjapura Road Bus Stop. This has not only caused blockages but also endangered pedestrian safety, forcing people to walk precariously close to the edge. "Sarjapura Road Bus Stop is not only a transit hub, but also a prime location for footpath issues as collapsed footpaths are a recurring problem causing blockages and endangering pedestrian safety. This is a matter that demands immediate attention from the local authorities so that the safety of pedestrians can be ensured," said a resident.

Near Trinity Acres apartment, elderly individuals and patients face challenges due to uneven and broken pathways, further exacerbated by poorly lit footpaths in the evenings. This increases reliance on autos, cabs, or cars for short distances, resulting in traffic congestion and longer travel times.

Residents have also pointed out the lack of proper footpath infrastructure near Shubh Enclave Gate 2 on Harlur Road, making the area inconvenient and unpleasant due to foul odours from nearby drains.

Vishnu Reddy, Zonal President of Mahadevapura zone of Bengaluru BNP, said, "BBMP in its 2023 budget allocated funds for pavement repairs, footpath maintenance and pothole fillings. The budget states that each ward would be provided with Rs 75 lakh, out of which Rs 25 lakh would be allotted for footpath maintenance. It also specifies that Rs 20 crore has been earmarked for the maintenance of flyovers under bridges and pedestrian subways. Despite several promises by the BBMP to make the city pedestrian-friendly, no improvements can be seen on the ground."

The BNP highlighted the long-standing issue of poorly maintained footpaths along Old Airport Road in Murugeshpalya, emphasising that despite numerous complaints, no action has been taken by the responsible authorities. **— BMB**

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### Parking obstacles

**Assaye Road**

Stone slabs on Promenade Road, near Assaye Road, restrict parking access, impacting the local community.

### Safety concerns

**Residency Road**

In Ward 111, Residency Road, concerns arise as BTP seemingly permits severe traffic rule violations, endangering a man atop a garbage tempo.

### Glass hazard

**Yelahanka**

In Yelahanka's SFS 208 colony, a resident under a PG's care has recklessly disposed of broken glass on the road, posing a safety concern that needs immediate attention.

# Multi-faceted route to investment

According to AMFI data, assets under management of multi-asset allocation funds have doubled to Rs 42,018 crore from Rs 20,840 crore a year ago.

**What is special about these schemes?**

According to the SEBI mandate, multi asset allocation funds must invest at least 10% of the corpus in three asset classes. They mostly invest in equities, debt and gold. Some invest in commodities and international entities.

**How will it benefit?**

One, it automatically offers diversification across different assets. This investment strategy makes them less volatile and helps them to offer high single-digit returns with less risk.

**They are not risk-free**

Many advisors are recommending these products as a 'safe bet'. They are relatively safe, but definitely not totally risk-free. Many schemes invest 40% in stocks. Therefore, they can be risky.

**Past performance**

In the five year horizon, out of nine schemes in the market six schemes offered double-digit returns.

Some funds offered over 15% in five years.

**Should you invest?**

If you have at least five years and want to invest in at least three asset classes, you can invest in multi asset allocation funds. These schemes may offer you high single-digit returns over a long period. Don't go by the current high returns.

**–Parvathi P, ET Online**

## AMFI clarifies on new high risk category of mutual funds

Industry body AMFI on Friday said the idea of introducing a new asset class, which lies between mutual fund and portfolio management services (PMS) and have flexible prudential norms, is at a "very nascent stage".

"The discussion is at a very nascent stage and will go through the consultative approval process through the regulator," the industry body said in a statement.

The statement came after media reports suggested that the Securities market regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), is in the process of formulating a new high-risk mutual fund category.

It was reported that the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) sought comments from asset management companies on the new mutual fund category. The proposed category is aimed at catering to investors with a high-risk appetite.

Clarifying on the media reports, AMFI said that there is a whole spectrum of products in the securities markets in terms of the risks and the applicability of prudential norms.

"For instance, given the retail participation in mutual funds, prudential norms applicable to mutual funds are higher, as compared to other investment instruments, where prudential norms are flexible in line with ticket size of investment," it added.

According to the industry body, there is a deliberation within the industry for an instrument that caters to investors who are looking for an intermediate investment product between mutual funds and PMS.

"The intent is to introduce a new asset class, which lies between a mutual fund and PMS, which may have flexible prudential norms, with a certain minimum ticket size. Hence, any comparison with AIF/PMS is placed," it added. **PTI**

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**Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.**

# Watt's happening? Double blow to power generation

## Low reservoir levels, reduced wind speeds impact power production in Karnataka

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The state is grappling with a double setback in power generation. Hydel power production is hampered by low reservoir levels, and now wind energy generation is also facing challenges due to reduced wind speeds.

The wind speed is crucial for power generation, with specific requirements for turbine rotation. For a two-megawatt turbine, a wind speed of three meters per second is necessary, while a 750-kilowatt turbine requires a wind speed of 4.5 meters per second. Machines operate when the wind speed is between 2.5 to 3 meters per second. Unfortunately, the wind speed in areas harnessing wind energy has dropped to less than 2.5 meters per second, impacting operations. In October this year, power generation from wind energy, which typically reached 8,000 MW in 24 hours, has now dwindled to just 500 MW. Typically, wind speeds are higher between May and October, but this year, the reduction started in September and declined in October. An official from the energy department said, "Severe fluctuations in weather, especially the significant reduction in wind speed, have negatively affected power generation. Remember, the power produced by a wind turbine is directly proportional to the cube of the wind speed. Therefore, even a slight reduction in wind speed significantly impacts power output."

With one form of renewable energy facing challenges, the Energy Department is shifting its focus to tap into another source. Energy Minister KJ George said,

Natural disasters, wind energy shortage, and cloud cover caused this year's power deficit

**"We plan to expand the Pavagada Solar Park adding another 2000 MW in 10,000 acres. We are also actively working on expanding solar power generation in Gadag and Kalburagi** –KJ George , Energy Minister

"Soon, we plan to expand the Pavagada Solar Park from its current capacity of 2,300 MW, adding another 2000 MW in 10,000 acres. We are also actively working on expanding solar power generation in Gadag and Kalburagi. These initiatives reflect our deliberate actions in this direction. We are striving to implement KUSUM B & KUSUM C initiatives aimed at promoting the use of solar energy among farmers. KUSUM B primarily incentivizes the adoption of stand-alone solar pump sets by individual farmers, availing of an 80% subsidy. These power plants can be established on agricultural or barren land, providing an additional income source for farmers through land leasing. Emphasising KUSUM - C, which involves the installation of solar power plants at substations, these plants can be set up on government land, agricultural land, or barren land, ensuring a continuous and sustainable power supply to agricultural consumers."

This year, the power deficit is attributed to natural calamities, including drought, a shortfall in wind energy, and cloud cover. The State Government also plans to procure power from Kudagi by December 1 and establish a barter system with Punjab and UP. From April 23 to October 15, 1627 M.U. of Electricity, amounting to Rs 1,102 crore, was purchased.

George recently conducted a review meeting with senior officials and solar irrigation pump manufacturers. During the meeting, George discussed the need for solar irrigation pumps in agriculture, emphasising their advantages. Solar pumps contribute to the state's long-term energy security, reduce the burden on farmers, and promote ecologically sustainable growth by minimising the carbon footprint. Karnataka actively aims to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and promote cleaner energy sources. The adoption of solar-powered irrigation is expected to reduce the burden of over Rs 1 lakh crore towards electricity subsidy for agriculture and cut the oil import bill by decreasing diesel consumption by 1.38 billion litres per annum, as per the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE). Solar pumps are currently deployed through the central government-led PM-KUSUM scheme or under state schemes, with the solar water pump selected scheme launched in the state and implemented from 2014-15 for the 5 HP category.

# Paying tribute on two wheels: Road safety rally

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Approximately 100 bikers participated in a rally on Sunday to raise awareness about traffic regulations. The event marked the second anniversary of Power Star Puneeth Rajkumar and was inaugurated by KV Unnikrishnan, Zonal Head – South, TVS Eurogrip, in front of Vidhana Soudha at 6.30 am.

"The objective of the bike rally is to create awareness among the public on the importance of complying with traffic norms and wearing helmets while riding bikes. Puneeth Rajkumar was a brand ambassador for Bengaluru Traffic Police. We thought it was apt to pay tribute to the great soul by organising the bike rally to create awareness among the public on traffic norms. We also created awareness on stroke on World Stroke Day," said Sushil Sagar, founder of Brotherhood Bikers' Organisation.

The event – October Bikers' Fest – is organised by Brotherhood Bikers' Organisation in association with the Association of Biking Community (ABC).

Bikers participating in the rally from Vidhana Soudha to Kengeri

Sushil Sagar has said that the Brotherhood Bikers' Organisation organised a similar bike rally last year to create awareness among the public on cardiac arrest. "The bike rally held last was from Vidhana Soudha to Devanahalli. We organised the bike rally today from Vidhana Soudha to Kengeri. The bikers reached G K Arena at Kengeri by 7.15 am. We have organised competitions and cultural programmes for the bikers till evening," he said.

Speaking with Bangalore Mirror, Trilok Kumar V, president of ABC, has said it is the second time the ABC is associating with the Brotherhood Bikers' Organisation. "I am happy to be associated with the Brotherhood Bikers' Organisation. The traffic police have facilitated a green corridor for the bikers," said Trilok Kumar.

Thousands of people paid tribute to Puneeth Rajkumar by visiting Puneeth Rajkumar Samadhi at Kanteerava Studio.

# NOTES FROM THE FIELD

### 'Don't sell land'

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar has urged residents of Shivanahalli (Kanakapura) not to sell their land to Bengalureans. During a recent visit to his constituency, DKS stressed that many villagers were selling their land to Bengalureans, but he warned against it. Shivakumar stated, "This place will soon become part of Bengaluru, and your land prices will drastically rise. So, keep this in mind and don't sell your land; retain it, as this land will fetch you a great price in decades to come."

### Elephant discipline

While traffic police aim to enforce lane discipline among humans, a surprising display of order was witnessed in Mysuru—thanks to elephants. Ahead of the jumbo savari, elephants being led to the palace were seen maintaining impeccable lane discipline. Unlike human drivers who often block paths during delays, these elephants stood in an orderly line on the road. Perhaps the elephants wanted to offer some valuable lessons on traffic discipline to us.

### Secret meetings

Rumours of divisions within the ruling Congress party have been circulating, further fueled by a meeting between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Home Minister G Parameshwara, where DKS was notably absent. When journalists questioned the CM about the meeting's content, he grew visibly annoyed and retorted, "Should I ask your permission to attend meetings? Why are you adding masala to a routine meeting? A few of us were invited for dinner, and we attended it. There are no divisions; it is only the media creating divisions."

### Claw controversy

The past week has been dominated by discussions on the illegal use of tiger claws as a fashion statement. Social media has been abuzz with allegations of celebrities, including Nikhil Kumaraswamy, wearing tiger claws as pendants. In response, forest department officials hurried to the former CM's home. Speaking to the media, HDK clarified that his son was not wearing an actual tiger claw but a synthetic one. He explained that the synthetic claw was a wedding gift to his son, and after the controversy erupted, he removed it and handed it over to investigators for forensic examination.

### Taken aback

During a recent programme, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah briefed women on the various financial measures his government had taken to support them. He highlighted the Gruha Lakshmi scheme, where Rs 2,000 is provided to women. While encouraging women to raise their hands if they were beneficiaries, Siddaramaiah faced an unexpected situation when a few women stood up, expressing that they were yet to receive the money. Surprised, Siddaramaiah immediately directed officials to address the women's concerns and assured them that the distribution would be expedited. Deputy CM DK Shivakumar had a similarly awkward moment when while discussing the five guarantee schemes, a woman supporter revealed she had not received the promised amount. Despite attempts by other supporters to downplay the issue, the concern remained unresolved. **–Sridhar Vivan**

# Shami stars as India hammer England

## Chasing 230 for victory in Lucknow, England collapsed to 129 all out in 34.5 overs

Fireworks at the Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow after India's victory, on Sunday; Mohammed Shami with teammates celebrates the wicket of England's Jonny Bairstow

Mohammed Shami led an inspired bowling display as India hammered England by 100 runs on Sunday to stay unbeaten in the World Cup and all but push the defending champions out of the semi-final race.

Chasing a tricky 230 for victory in Lucknow, England collapsed to 129 all out in 34.5 overs to suffer their fifth defeat in six matches and leave their title defence at the mercy of a mathematical miracle. The hosts have six wins in as many games and are virtually assured of a semi-final place.

Skipper Rohit Sharma led the charge with 87 as India posted 229-9, a total that looked below par but proved enough for a struggling England side on a sluggish pitch.

Shami returned figures of 4-22 while fellow quick Jasprit Bumrah took three wickets to wrap up the match as fireworks lit up the sky.

England had a disastrous start and fell to 52-5 after Bumrah took wickets on successive ball to be on a hat-trick and Shami joined forces to grab two more. Bumrah sent back Dawid Malan, for 16, and Joe Root, for nought, but Jonny Bairstow played out the hat-trick ball.

England soon lost Ben Stokes, bowled by Shami, to raise India's hopes of defending the total he then brought the house down when he bowled Bairstow for 14 as 46,000 fans, largely all Indian in blue jerseys, roared.

Wickets kept tumbling and skipper Jos Buttler was bowled by Kuldeep for 10, and Shami sent Moeen Ali packing for 15 and the end was near.

Earlier England left-arm quick David Willey returned figures of 3-45, including the prized wicket of Virat Kohli for a nine-ball duck, after they elected to bowl. The unbeaten hosts lost three early wickets, including two to Chris Woakes, to slip to 40-3 before Rohit steadied the innings and built a 91-run stand with KL Rahul, who made 39. Rohit survived a reprieve on 33 when he was given out lbw but the opener reviewed the decision in his favour with tracking showing the ball would have missed the leg stump.

**–AFP**

## 'Working on this team for 2 years'

Ahead of his side's ICC Cricket World Cup, Afghanistan skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi said that there was a belief in the management for the team which has represented the country and that is why, it has managed to deliver some solid performances in the tournament.

Afghanistan will take on the Sri Lanka in their ICC Cricket World Cup match in Pune on Sunday. Afghanistan has pulled off two stunning upsets against defending champions England and Pakistan and has lost three games. They are at the seventh spot with four points.

On persisting with the same talent pool over the year, Shahidi said in the pre-match press conference, "Yeah, we worked on this team for the last two years. Consistently, we were selecting the same team. We were struggling in a point of view, especially in death overs in the fast bowling department. But we tried our best to give that place to someone who can do it for us."

Afghanistan's Ikram Alikhil and Abdul Rahman during a practice session, on Sunday

**–ANI**

# Rohit top-scores with 87, Suryakumar makes 49

Captain Rohit Sharma top-scored for India with 87 from 101 balls on a two-paced pitch while Suryakumar Yadav made a crucial 49 at the back-end as the hosts huffed and puffed to post 229/9 against England in their Men's ODI World Cup clash at the BRSABV Ekana Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Pushed into batting first on a pitch which gave bowlers some help, India were 40/3 inside 12 overs before Rohit pulled them out of trouble and held the innings together with a knock laced with ten fours and three sixes, while adding 91 runs for the fourth wicket with K.L. Rahul.

After the duo fell, Suryakumar Yadav hit four boundaries and a six to get India to a respectable total which looked difficult at one point. For England, who were tight in their fielding and built dot-ball pressure in the first Power-play, David Willey stood out with 3-45 while Chris Woakes and Adil Rashid took two scalps each in a top bowling performance.

Rohit was kept quiet in the opening over as Willey began with a maiden. But in the left-arm pacer's second over, Rohit got off the mark with a four clearing mid-on and nailed the pull as well as loft down the ground for a brace of sixes, taking 18 runs off the third over. England got a breakthrough in the fourth over when Woakes castled Shubman Gill with a nip-backer through the gate. With the bowlers getting some seam movement on a two-paced pitch, England put Virat Kohli under sustained dot-ball pressure and that resulted in the talismanic batter mistiming a drive on the up to mid-off, making it his first duck in World Cups.

Batters Rohit Sharma and Suryakumar Yadav run between the wickets

With no respite on offer, more trouble followed India as Woakes rushed Shreyas Iyer for pace on a short ball, cramping him for room and the batter could only give a top edge on pull to mid-on. Seeing the situation, Rohit dropped anchor after surviving an LBW appeal against Mark Wood. In between, he hit some boundaries too, amongst which a drive threading through cover off Rashid was the standout, with Rohit's sweep off the leg-spinner for four also bringing up his 18,000 runs in international cricket. After reaching his third fifty of this World Cup, Rohit signalled a shift of gears by flicking Wood off his wrists for six.

Rahul cashed on Liam Livingstone's introduction by getting an outside edge and then sweeping a low full toss to collect a brace of fours. More runs came for India off The 91-run partnership came to a halt in the 31st over when Rahul tried to smash against Willey, only to mistime and give a simple catch to mid-on. Suryakumar got going with a whippy drive past mid-on for four, followed by bringing out pull and sweep for more boundaries. Rohit's knock came to an end in the 39th over when he went for a slog on Rashid's googly but holed out to deep mid-wicket.

**–IANS**

# Cooking up a costly storm

## Expensive onions, surge in grain and lentil prices are wreaking havoc

| Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Tomato prices may have plummeted to Rs 10 per kg, but there's no relief for households, as now onion prices are hitting the roof. A kilogram of onion is being sold for Rs 60 to Rs 80 per kg. And as if this were not enough, the increase in grain and lentil prices is adding to the expenses.

Compared to last year, this year's rates have appreciated by at least 30%. For instance, a kg of pigeon peas (tur dal) is being sold for Rs 160 to Rs 170 in the wholesale market, while the retail prices hover close to Rs 200. Just a few months it used to cost in the range of Rs 130 to Rs 135 per kg.

Traders have expressed concerns about the upward trajectory of the prices, especially with the monsoon's failure impacting tur dal production. Green gram that ranged from Rs 100 to Rs 120 per kg is now being sold for Rs 150 to Rs 160 per kg. Similarly, prices of wheat and other grains have seen an appreciation of 25 to 30%.

Sairam Prasad, Secretary of the APMC Foodgrains Merchants Association, said, "Currently, we are selling grains from our existing stocks. This is the season of auspicious functions and also festival time, leading to a greater demand for grains. We are hopeful that by December, fresh stocks will be available."

Traders attributed the trend to production being hit. Paddy production in the state, which is typically around 65 lakh tonnes annually, has plunged to 45 lakh tonnes this year. As a precautionary measure, the Centre has banned the export of non-basmati rice to curb food prices. But poor rice production may spike rice prices too.

Prices of lentils have gone up by at least 30% as compared to last year

> **"This is the season of auspicious functions and festival time, leading to spike in demand**
> – Sairam Prasad, merchants association

As for the sowing pattern, 114.27 lakh hectares are used for sowing, with 82.35 lakh tonnes of kharif crops, 25.38 lakh tonnes of rabi crops, and 6.54 lakh hectares sown during summer in the current year. Karnataka had estimated the production of 148.16 lakh tonnes of grains and 13.84 lakh tonnes of oilseeds. However, due to rain deficit, only 45.49 lakh kharif crops were sown this year.

Sunetra Gowda, a homemaker, said, "The surge in grain prices has inflated our kitchen budget. Tur dal has seen a considerable hike, so we are compelled to allocate a larger share of our monthly budget towards food. The rise in rice prices adds to the overall strain on the kitchen budget which is forcing us to reconsider our dietary choices and expenditure on food items." Surendra Nayak, a trader, said those organising weddings are hit by the increase in prices. "The unrelenting surge in grain prices is particularly impactful during seasons of functions, where the demand for grains is high. The implications of this surge extend beyond individual households, affecting communities at large," he said.

# Mysore Derby: Touch of Grey is all resplendent

Touch of Grey brilliantly ridden by Indian ace Suraj Narredu won the blue riband of the season, the IX Bet Mysore Derby in splendid fasion at Mysore races in front of a packed crowd on Sunday. Touch of Grey who was bidding for his second classic success justified the huge expectations assuming command of the mega event in the final furlong and romping home to the delight of the rail birds, who fancied the grey to come up trumps in the rich event which offered a handsome purse of Rs 57 lakh. Ruling Dynasty ran second ahead of Fast Pace.

After winning the Mysore 2000 Guineas in emphatic fasion, the classy grey was expected to win the Blue Riband of the season. Though many were of the belief that Touch of Grey may find the traditional 2,000 metres trip taxing, the favourite proved everyone wrong displaying his undoubted class and decimating the opposition without raising a sweat. This was the second successive Derby win in Mysore for top saddle artiste Suraj. The star performer last year booted home Once You Go Black in a thriller. The winner is trained by Suraj Narredu's father Satish Narredu.

After the field of nine runners came under the starter's flag, the designated pace maker Fearless Joey led the field with Suraj settling Touch of Grey nice and easy in about the third position. Approaching the final bend Suraj made his move on Touch of Grey who left the field cold with an electrifying speed to emerge the best colt on parade at this centre. The big crowd enjoyed the day's racing with favourites ruling the roost, sending the punters home in a happy mood.

Proud owners of Touch Of Grey lead in the Mysore Derby winner on Sunday

The Mysore Race CLub led by Chairman K M Chandre Gowda made excellent arrangements which were widely appreciated by all the professionals.

The Mysore regular season concluded with the father son duo of Satish and Suraj winning the trainers and jockeys championship respectively.

— Ikram Khan

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## personal

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I Prakash V S/O, N. Veerappa Aradhya R/o No-05 Gandharva Nilaya Kh No.89, 3rd Main Road, 18th Cross Hoysalangar, Rammurthy Nagar Bangalore North - 560016. have changed my name to Prakash Aradhya V.

I, H.K.Lakshmi D/o. Huchaiah, #68/4, Venkataswamy Reddy Bldg., B/h BBMP, Begur Rd, B'Halli, Blr-68, have changed my name to LAKSHMI vide affidavit Dtd: 26/10/23 before Notary M. Rajendra, B'lore.

**DYLAN** Joseph Aloysius Rudolph Royan S/o Jude Lincoln Royan (aka Jude Royan) R/o Bomenahalli, Bangalore has changed my name to Dylan Joseph Aloysius Royan for passport purposes.

### GENERAL

I, Ranawaka Arachchige Nadhi Lakmali, Sri Lankan, passport no.:N8928832, would like to acquire Indian citizenship by way of naturalization.

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# Any alternative to tree felling?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The trees act as natural carbon sinks, absorbing harmful greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. Felling the trees could lead to an increase in pollution levels and a rise in temperatures, exacerbating climate change. Furthermore, the suburban railway project threatens several species of flora and fauna that rely on these trees for habitat and sustenance," Rao explained.

The activists felt the project should explore alternatives such as elevated tracks, tunnels, or rerouting to minimise the ecological impact. "In a circumstance that tree loss is inevitable, compensatory afforestation must be a priority within a stipulated radius, so as to maintain carbon sequestration in the given area.

It is urged the felled trees should be replaced with native species in suitable locations. This not only helps maintain the green cover but also ensures the survival of local ecosystems," Rao said.

She added that innovative solutions like vertical gardens on station walls, green roofs, and integrating green spaces within railway stations must be considered to enhance the project's eco-friendliness.

She is of the view that engaging local communities in the conservation effort by involving them in tree transplantation and maintenance can create a sense of shared responsibility. "While the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project promises to alleviate transport issues, it should not come at the cost of our environment.

Protecting trees and implementing sustainable alternatives will not only safeguard the city's green cover in a rapidly changing ecosystem, but also set pioneering examples for future urban development projects. It is imperative that we preserve the natural ecosystems that Bengaluru is bestowed with, while progressing towards a better-connected and green-driven future," she said.

Stating that trees provide clean air, lower stress, boost happiness, reduce flood risk, reduce air conditioning bills and even save municipal money, Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation said urban afforestation thumb rule of 33% green cover needs to be addressed now since Bengaluru is already facing water crisis and is looking at severe water scarcity in the near future.

"If this is not followed and addressed with planting more trees and saving the green cover in Bengaluru, we would be facing major climate issues — extreme weather events like unseasonal rains, flooding, drought and so on. Every project should have an afforestation plan for the trees being felled with zone classification and forest area being protected," Jacob noted.

Meanwhile, Dattatreya Devare, trustee of Bangalore Environment Trust emphasised the need of conducting a survey on the alignment of Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project. "The authorities should hold a public consultation before taking a decision to cut down such a huge number of trees," said Dattatreya Devare.

**HEALTH TIP:** Onion juice is rich in the enzyme catalase, which may help reverse premature greying

Epsom salt bath has medically proven to help reduce pain and other symptoms associated with ovarian cysts


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# Good morning, sunshine

## 12 steps guide to Surya Namaskar and its benefits

We greet the sun in the morning by performing Surya namaskar. The practice is named after the sun because it is a way of expressing gratitude and reverence for the sun, which is considered a symbol of life and energy in many cultures. The yoga exercise is performed in 12 steps.

What Is Surya Namaskar?

Surya namaskar is a 12-step yoga asana performed in a smooth rhythmic manner. Surya Namaskar is often used as a warm-up or as a standalone practice to improve flexibility, strength, and overall physical and mental well-being. The asana provides various health benefits and is a great stretch.

### When To Practice Surya Namaskar?

The most ideal time to do surya namaskar is during the sunrise. Generally recommended to do it on an empty stomach. You can also perform it as a warm-up before your daily exercises. Another good time to do the asana will be before bedtime. It will calm your mind and help you relax better, giving you a good night's sleep.

### 12 Steps Of Surya Namaskar

**Step 1: Pranamasana**

This step helps to relax and to calm the body and mind. Join your hands and relax your shoulders. Inhale.
Pro Tip: Focus on your breath.

**Step 2: Hasta Uttanasana**

In this step, you stretch your chest and abdomen lifting the energy up through the body. It is also known as the raised arms pose as you raise your hands above your head.
**Pro Tip:** It's important to engage your core muscles and maintain proper alignment. This not only maximizes the benefits of the pose but also helps protect your lower back and promotes good posture.

**Step 3: Hasta Padasana**

It massages the abdominal organs, increasing the power of digestion and the flow of blood towards the brain. It also relieves female disorders and stretches the spine.
**Pro tip:** If you're working on your flexibility or find it challenging to reach your toes comfortably in Hasta Padasana, consider using props to assist your practice.

**Step 4: Ashwa Sanchalanasana**

The pose also known as the horse-riding pose helps stretch your quadriceps, iliopsoas muscles, and thighs. Helps increase mental power.
**Pro tip:** Pay special attention to your hip and leg alignment.

**Step 5: Dandasana**

The next step in the 12 steps of Surya namaskar is dandasana, also known as Staff Pose or Seated Staff Pose, which is a foundational yoga pose that involves sitting with the legs extended in front of you. It's a simple yet effective pose that helps improve posture, strengthen the back muscles, and increase flexibility in the hamstrings.
**Pro tip:** Keep your arms perpendicular to the yoga mat.

**Step 6: Ashtanga Namaskara**

Ashtanga Namaskara, also known as Eight-Limbed Salutation or Eight-Point Pose, is a fundamental yoga posture often performed as part of the Surya Namaskar (Sun Salutation) sequence. This pose is named after the eight points of contact your body makes with the floor during the posture.
**Pro tip:** The eight parts of your body including two hands, two feet, two knees, chest, and chin should touch the ground.

**Step 7: Bhujangasana**

Bhujangasana also known as the Cobra Pose is good for relieving tension in the back. The back is supposed to be arched in this exercise. It can also be called the cobra pose.

**Pro tip:** Do not overstrain yourself while doing this pose.

**Step 8: Parvatasana**

Parvatasana involves coming into a pose that resembles a mountain shape, emphasizing an inverted "V" position of the body. Hence, also known as the mountain pose.
Pro tip: Keep the heels on the ground.

**Step 9: Ashwa Sanchalanasana**

It's a transitional pose in the Sun Salutation, helping to flow smoothly into the next postures. Remember to synchronize your breath with the movement for a fluid and mindful practice.
**Pro tip:** Press your hips down and look up.

**Step 10: Hasta Padasana**

This pose involves a forward bend that requires flexibility in the spine and hamstrings.
**Pro tip:** Keep your knees straight.

**Step 11: Hasta Uttanasana**

Hasta Uttanasana is an excellent pose for stretching and lengthening the spine, opening the chest and ribcage, and increasing overall flexibility. It also helps improve posture and can provide a sense of rejuvenation and energy when practiced as part of a dynamic sequence like the Sun Salutation.
**Pro tip:** Make sure your hands are beside your ears.

**Step 12: Pranamasana**

Pranamasana, the last step in the 12-step program of the Surya namaskar, is a simple but powerful pose that promotes grounding, balance, and a sense of inner peace.
**Pro tip:** Keep the elbows up.

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**1** Is 12 Surya Namaskar enough for weight loss?

- 12 Surya namaskars every day burn 14 calories. Practicing more had quicker results.

**2** How to do Surya Namaskar for beginners?

- There are 12 steps to perform Surya Namaskar given here for beginners.

**3** What is the duration of 1 Surya Namaskar?

- A round of surya namaskar lasts for 3-4 mins.'

### Benefits OF Practising Surya Namaskar

**1. Healthy hair**

Yoga is known to relieve stress and promote relaxation reducing hair fall. It also helps maintain blood circulation resulting in thicker hair growth.

**2. Weight loss**

Performing several rounds of Surya Namaskar can help you burn calories, which is essential for weight loss. The exact calorie burn varies depending on factors like your body weight, the intensity of your practice, and the number of rounds you do.

**3. Glowing skin**

Yoga makes you sweat. Sweating is beneficial to unclogging your pores and cleansing your skin, making you glow.

**4. Improving Digestive System**

Surya Namaskar poses involve gentle compression and release of the abdominal area. This can stimulate peristalsis, the rhythmic contractions of the digestive tract that move food and waste through the system. Healthy peristalsis aids in regular bowel movements.

**5. Better Menstrual Cycle**

Hormonal imbalances can lead to menstrual irregularities and discomfort. Balanced hormones can contribute to a smoother and more regular menstrual cycle.

**6. Lowering Blood Sugar Level**

The activity enhances insulin sensitivity and helps your cells utilize glucose more effectively, which can lead to lower blood sugar levels. Yoga asanas have a beneficial effect on glycaemic control and improve nerve function in mild to moderate Type 2 diabetes with sub-clinical neuropathy.

**7. Improves Breathing**

The inhalation and exhalation activity throughout the yoga asana helps improve your breathing and also helps with nose blockage and chest congestion.

**8. Battles Insomnia**

Surya namaskar helps relieve stress and provides an improvement in day-to-day performance. The asana also tires you. Helping battle insomnia.

**by Prisha Raote, Femina**

## All you need to know about...

*Sunscreen effect*

**Sunscreen's not the best**

Despite the importance of sunscreen, researchers said that it is also the least effective way to protect your skin when compared to sun-protective clothing and sun avoidance.

**Paradox**

According to the study published in the journal Cancers, sunscreen use is increasing, but so are melanoma and skin cancer rates, which the researchers say, is the "sunscreen paradox".

**False sense of security**

"The problem is that people use sunscreen as a 'permission slip' to tan. People think they are protected from skin cancer because they are using a product marketed to prevent a condition," said Dr Ivan Litvinov, McGill University, Canada. Most people don't apply enough sunscreen or stay in the sun for hours after applying sunscreen in the morning, which gives them a "false sense of security", he added.

**2 studies**

2 studies were conducted: The first found that Canadians in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island -- provinces with high melanoma rates -- were more likely to report using sun protection, more aware of the health risks of sun exposure, and more apt to follow the UV index. Despite this, they also received more sun exposure due to warmer temperatures and a tendency to engage in outdoor activities. Similarly, in the second study of the UK Biobank, the researchers documented that sunscreen use was associated with a more than two-fold risk of developing skin cancer.

**Keep in mind**

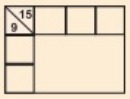
Interventions to address knowledge and practice gaps in sun protection and skin cancer prevention must consider this paradox and the unique norms of communities around the world, he added. IANS

## SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

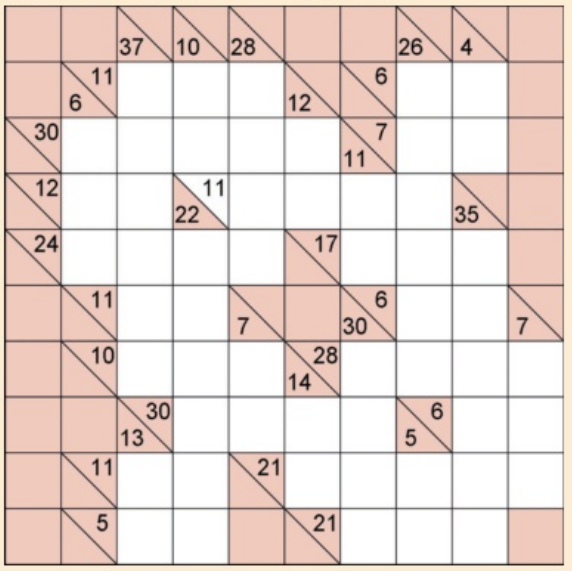
A man has Buffalos and ducks. The total legs are 24 more than twice the number of heads. Find the number of Buffalos?

## Kakuro

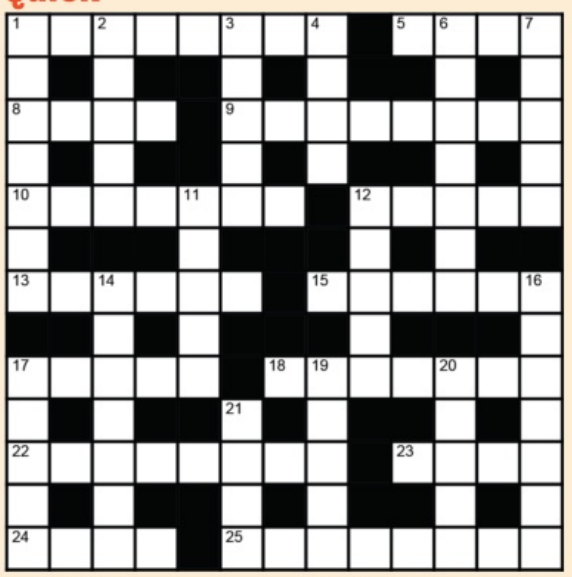
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

1 Condenses written work (8)
5 Slightly open (4)
8 Elliptical (4)
9 Unusual or aberrant (8)
10 In full measure (7)
12 Contributes (5)
13 Inducts or designs (6)
15 Vigour, spirit (6)
17 Grey matter (5)
18 Determination (7)
22 Jubilant (8)
23 Keen (4)
24 Zenith (4)
25 Crashed into (8)

**DOWN**

1 Took as one's own (7)
2 Cook on dry heat (5)
3 Chalice (5)
4 Sound in mind (4)
6 Restaurant at the Leela Place (7)
7 Parts for performers (5)
11 Dead language (5)
12 Biological group (5)
14 Asian body of water (4,3)
16 Surrendered (7)
17 Verbally censor (5)
19 Do extremely well (5)
20 Liked or adored (5)
21 Ear-related (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: C EQUALS T**

VOZZOAQGCONI OFATNEIN CLN FNETNT DN EWWTJEAL JQT KJEG.

## Linemaro

You are warmer than a blanket

## Mindchow

Three things in human life are important. The first is to be kind. The second is to be kind. And the third is to be kind

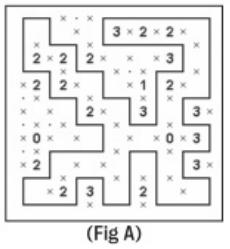
## Joke of the day

Just when you think you can make ends meet, someone moves the ends

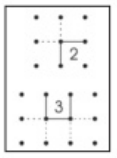
## Loop

### Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

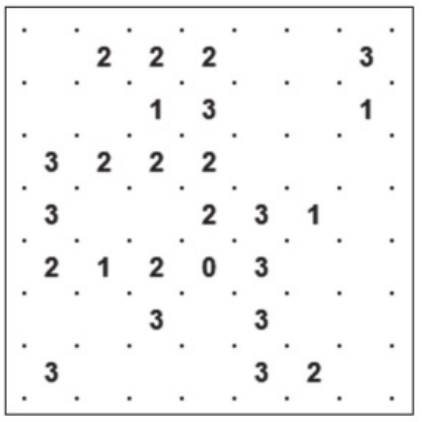


(Fig B) Not Allowed

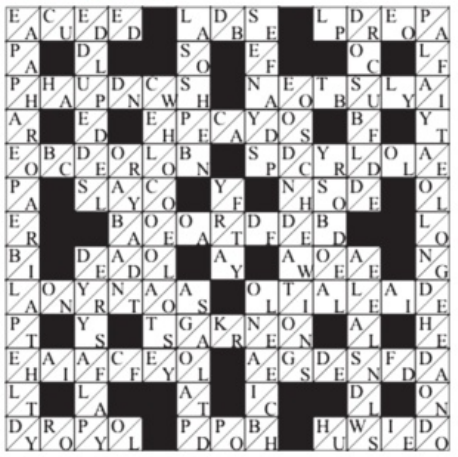
### How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



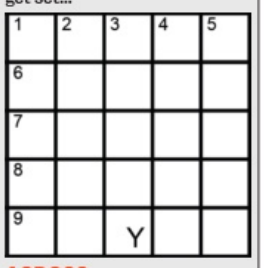
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



**ACROSS**

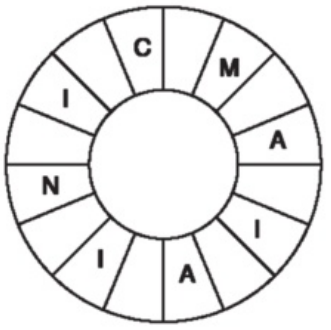
1 Paste; 6 A mail; 7 Tunis; 8 Retem; 9 Reply

**DOWN**

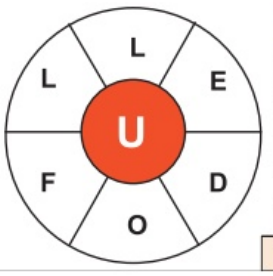
1 Lumps; 2 Nepal; 3 My ait; 4 Trite; 5 Saree

## Mensapuzzle

Read clockwise to find a 16-letter word. Only alternate letters have been shown, and you have to find the starting point.




## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

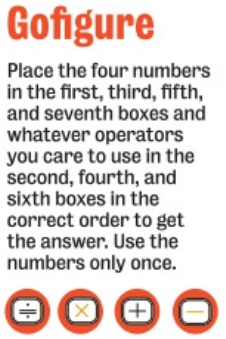
## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 8 | | | 6 | | 1 | |
| 3 | | | 1 | | | 8 | | |
| | 9 | | 5 | | 4 | | | 6 |
| 6 | | 9 | | | | 7 | 8 | |
| | | | | 2 | | | | |
| | 8 | 7 | | | | 2 | | 3 |
| 4 | | | 7 | | 3 | | 2 | |
| | | 6 | | | 1 | | | 7 |
| | 7 | | 6 | | | 5 | | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

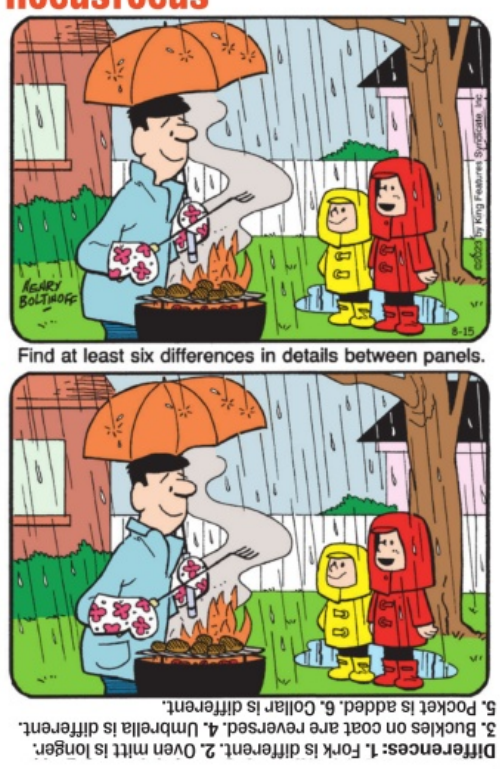


Easy = 3
2 2 2 5

Medium = 8
3 4 7 8

Hard = 14
2 4 8 3

## Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

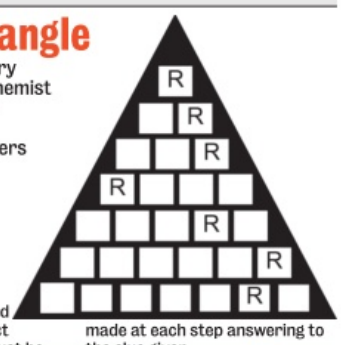
Differences: 1. Fork is different. 2. Oven mitt is longer. 3. Buckles on coat are reversed. 4. Umbrella is different. 5. Pocket is added. 6. Collar is different.

## Riddler

Solve this rebus: STANDS 0_23456789

## Alpha triangle

1 Radius in geometry
2 Iridium for the chemist
3 Knightly address
4 Get up
5 Wedding cake layers
6 An easy catch
7 Makes a mess



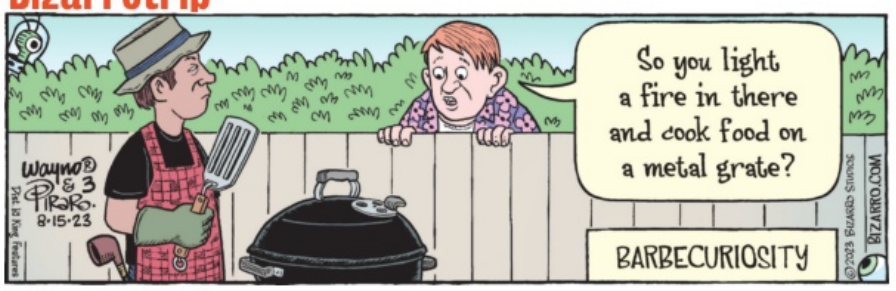

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

# COMICS

## Redeye by Mel Casson

## Bizarrotrip




## Diamond Lil

## Hart of the city

WHY DON'T YOU WANT TO GO TO THE DANCE WITH BRENT?
I'M A FREE AGENT! I DON'T WANNA BE TIED DOWN!
YOU'RE A STRONG WHITE WOMAN WHO DON'T NEED NO MAN!
THAT'S RIGHT!

## Crankshaft

I WANT YOU TO USE THIS LOTION I'M PRESCRIBING EVERY DAY...
THEN BEGIN USING IT SPORADICALLY...
UNTIL ONE DAY YOU SPOT IT IN THE BACK OF YOUR MEDICINE CABINET AND CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER WHY IT'S THERE.
tombatiuk.com/books
8-12

## Mutts

# WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you will perform well in your job, and your colleagues may cooperate with you. Your job performance may be good, and you may be able to complete your postponed projects on time. You may lend money for investment purposes. Job seekers may find new job opportunities. Positive news for those affected by old health issues.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20
Today, situations are okay, and people around you may respond to you. However, you are advised not to take life as a burden. You should try to sustain yourself in unavoidable situations. You may face some difficulties in making easy gains. Blessings from elders may help you overcome these challenges. Your confusions in choosing targets may now be resolved.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21
Today, tasks remain incomplete, and you may be a victim of mood swings. Your patience may be tested many times, and silly mistakes may confuse you when trying to conclude your work. Lovebirds may find themselves confused about their feelings. High expectations may affect your emotional attachment to your spouse. You are advised to take care of your parents, and students may lose their concentration.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you will be glad as you manage to maintain a balance between your earnings and expenditures, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you implement your plans. Your siblings and subordinate staff will be more helpful today. Plan to visit elders or a religious place.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, your energy level will be high, making you happy and optimistic about fulfilling your desires with the help of hard work. You will plan outings with friends and family to share your happiness. Students will receive good news regarding their studies.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, until late afternoon, the day may not be good, and you may feel unhappy and nervous. However, in the afternoon, you will become happier as your internal vitality boosts your self-confidence. You should avoid carelessness when making decisions related to finance, profession, and studies. Sometimes, you may face self-respect issues with your spouse, so you need to maintain patience to prevent happy moments from turning sour. Lovebirds will plan short trips.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, your tendency to overspend will affect your savings. Be careful while expressing yourself on both the work and domestic fronts. Avoid lending money and postpone making important decisions regarding real estate and other asset issues. Try to avoid neglecting your responsibilities.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, there may be peace in your mind. You may plan to invest some capital in your business, which can increase liquidity. Your earnings may boost your financial health. Enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, enhancing harmony in your family life. Singles may find a suitable match, and lovebirds may decide to get married. Students will be blessed with good karma.

**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may be very happy, and your losses may turn into profits. Your seniors will appreciate your work, and you may have changes in your position or responsibilities at work, possibly in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may now be under control. Singles and lovebirds may make important decisions regarding marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

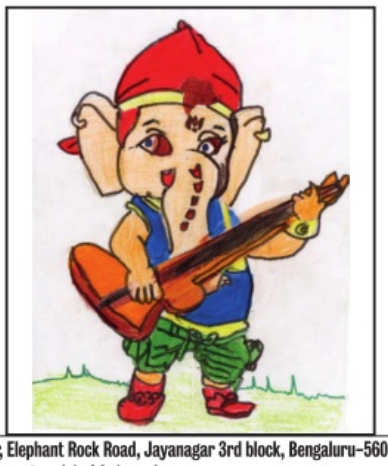
**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may make you happy. The crunch from last week is now over, and with the help of these blessings, you may see the results of your hard work. With the assistance of your subordinates, you may be able to initiate postponed tasks, and there may be gains in your business that will boost your finances.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may feel dull and experience some health issues. It is advisable to postpone investments in the business and refrain from starting new ventures. You are likely to face losses in your business, and your gains may turn into losses.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may receive some business orders that could be profitable in the near future. You may implement new ideas in your work. New partnerships may emerge. However, your busy work schedule may make you mentally tired and affect your domestic life.

## KIDZONE

Aaliya Taranum K , 12 Years, Mitra Academy



A Harin Raam, 7 Years, New Cambridge English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

## SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**
Each animal, be it a duck or a buffalo, has at least two legs and one head. The buffaloes each have two more legs. There will at least be twice the number of legs as there are heads. Any extra legs will belong to the buffaloes. The 24 extra legs (12 pairs) belong to 12 buffaloes.
It tells us that the man has 12 buffaloes.

**BULL'S EYE**
DOLEFUL, duel, dull, feud, flue, foul, fouled, fuel, full, loud

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | P | A | T | E |
| L | A | M | I | A |
| U | N | I | T | S |
| M | E | T | R | E |
| P | L | Y | E | R |

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | C | E | D | | A | B | S | | P | R | O | P | | |
| P | L | | S | | E | | O | | L | | | | | |
| P | L | | A | | C | | D | | N | | | | | |
| A | U | N | C | H | | N | E | B | U | L | A | | | |
| R | | D | | H | E | A | D | S | | B | | Y | | |
| O | B | E | R | O | N | | S | C | Y | L | L | A | | |
| P | | S | A | C | | F | | H | O | | E | | L | |
| I | | D | A | L | | Y | | W | E | E | | N | | |
| R | | | B | O | A | R | D | E | D | | | O | | |
| | P | | S | A | C | | F | | H | O | E | | L | |
| | A | O | R | T | A | S | | L | I | L | I | E | | |
| | T | | Y | | T | A | K | E | N | | A | | H | |
| | E | I | F | F | E | L | | A | G | E | N | D | A | |
| | I | | D | A | L | | Y | | W | E | E | | N | |
| | Y | O | Y | O | | D | O | H | | U | S | E | D | |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | E | A | K | | C | O | L | L | I | D | E | D | | |
| E | | | | E | | I | | E | | | | E | | |
| C | S | T | A | T | I | C | | A | V | I | D | | | |
| L | | L | | O | | X | | | | O | | L | | |
| B | R | A | I | N | | R | E | S | O | L | V | E | | |
| | | R | | I | | | | | | U | | I | | |
| D | R | A | F | T | S | | E | N | E | R | G | Y | | |
| | | | A | | E | | | | A | | | | | |
| T | O | T | A | L | L | Y | | G | I | V | E | S | | |
| P | | S | | I | | E | | A | | E | | | | |
| O | V | A | L | | A | B | N | O | R | M | A | L | | |
| D | O | | R | | A | | | | A | | O | | | |
| A | B | R | I | D | G | E | S | | A | J | A | R | | |

**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 8 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 1 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 5 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 9 |
| 6 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 4 |
| 2 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 6 |
| 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| 7 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 |

**MENSA PUZZLE**
CIRCUMNAVIGATION.

**RIDDLER**
No one understands

**QUOTE UNCODE**
Difficulties increase the nearer we approach our goal.

**GO FIGURE**
Easy
5 + 2 – 2 – 2 = 3
Medium
3 + 8 – 7 + 4 = 8
Hard
8 x 3 + 4 / 2 = 14

**ALPHA TRIANGLE**
R, In, Sir, Rise, Tiers, Sitter, Litters.

**LOOP**

**KAKURO**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 4 | 1 | | | 9 | 4 | 8 | |
| | 9 | 2 | | 6 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| | 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 | | 5 | 1 | |
| | | 7 | 4 | 7 | | 2 | 4 | 7 |
| | 6 | 3 | 1 | | 8 | 9 | 4 | |
| | 2 | 8 | 5 | 9 | | 9 | 6 | 2 |
| | 3 | 9 | | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| | 1 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | 4 | 3 |
| | 2 | 3 | 6 | | 5 | 1 | | |

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**Starry match**
Salman Khan sits next to Cristiano Ronaldo during boxing match in Saudi Arabia, pic goes viral

BangaloreMirror | 12
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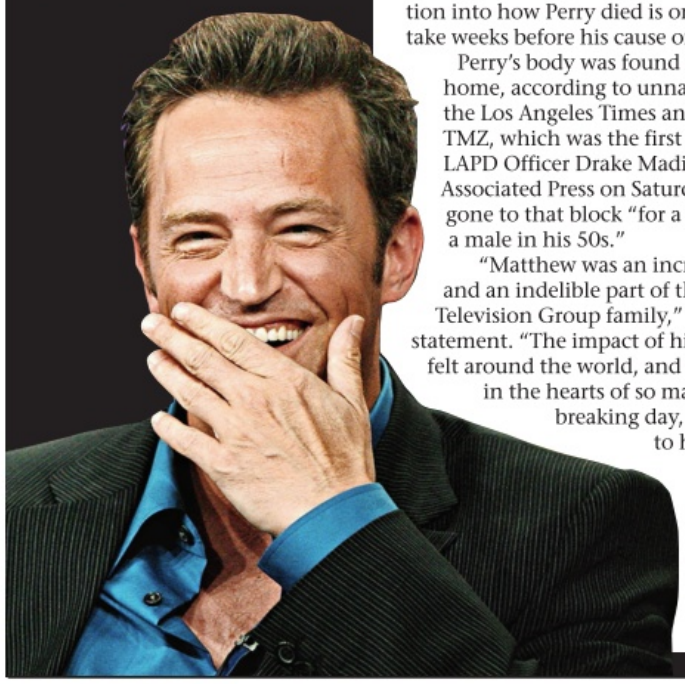
# Farewell, friend

## Matthew Perry, Emmy-nominated 'Friends' star, dies at 54



Friends" star Matthew Perry, the Emmy-nominated actor whose sarcastic, but lovable Chandler Bing was among television's most famous and most quotable characters, has died at 54.

The actor was found dead at his Los Angeles home, according to coroner's records. An investigation into how Perry died is ongoing, and it may take weeks before his cause of death is determined.

Perry's body was found in a hot tub at his home, according to unnamed sources cited by the Los Angeles Times and celebrity website TMZ, which was the first to report the news. LAPD Officer Drake Madison told The Associated Press on Saturday that officers had gone to that block "for a death investigation of a male in his 50s."

"Matthew was an incredibly gifted actor and an indelible part of the Warner Bros. Television Group family," the company said in a statement. "The impact of his comedic genius was felt around the world, and his legacy will live on in the hearts of so many. This is a heartbreaking day, and we send our love to his family, his loved ones, and all of his devoted fans."

Perry's 10 seasons on "Friends" made him one of Hollywood's most recognizable actors, starring opposite Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, Matt LeBlanc, Lisa Kudrow and David Schwimmer as a friend group in New York.

As Chandler, he played the quick-witted, insecure and neurotic roommate of LeBlanc's Joey and a close friend of Schwimmer's Ross. During the show's hijinks, he could be counted on to chime in with a line like "Could this BE any more awkward?" or another well-timed quip.

Perry was open about his long and public struggle with addiction, writing at the beginning of his 2022 million-selling memoir: "Hi, my name is Matthew, although you may know me by another name. My friends call me Matty. And I should be dead."

"Friends" ran from 1994 until 2004, winning one best comedy series Emmy Award in 2002. The cast notably banded together for later seasons to obtain a salary of $1 million per episode for each.

Some of his "Friends" costars paid tribute on social media, posting photos, GIFS and bloopers from their favorite episodes. "What a loss," actress Maggie Wheeler, who played his girlfriend Janice, wrote on Instagram. "The joy you brought to so many in your too short lifetime will live on. I feel very blessed by every creative moment we shared."

Actress Morgan Fairchild, who played his mother on the show, said the loss of a "brilliant young actor" was a shock.

"I'm heartbroken about the untimely death of my 'son,'" she wrote on X, formerly known as Twitter.

**-AP**

# Well, yellow

Actor Katrina Kaif on Sunday treated fans to her graceful pictures in a yellow saree.

Taking to Instagram, Katrina dropped a series of images of herself in a bright yellow silk saree from Raw Mango. She paired it with golden bangles and earrings. She opted for minimal make-up and accentuated her look with a small round red bind.

Needless to say, Katrina looked as ethereal as ever.

She captioned the post using a yellow heart emoji.

In no time, her fans and members from the film industry chimed in the comment section and showered praises on her.

Actor Alia Bhatt wrote, "So beautiful Katy [?]."

Actor Huma Qureshi commented, "Prettyyyyy."

On the work front, Katrina is gearing up for the release of 'Tiger 3' with Salman Khan. The film, which is directed by Maneesh Sharma, will hit the theatres this Diwali.

# Back on the runway

Actor Sonam Kapoor, on Saturday, walked the ramp for the first time after having son Vayu.

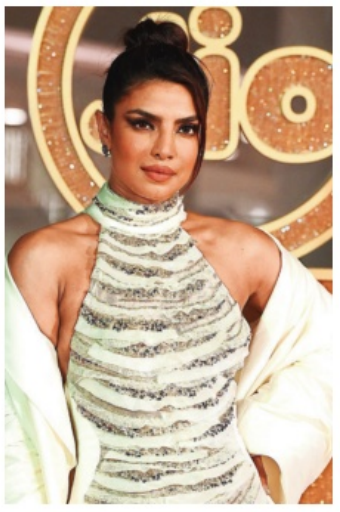
She made heads turn with her ethereal presence as a showstopper for designer Abhinav Mishra's show, which was held in the national capital last night.

Sonam undoubtedly weaved magic when she made her entry on the soulful recreated version of 'Hasta hua noorani chehra' song. Sonam has the old-world charm in her that truly sets her apart from the rest, and it was a sight for the sore eyes to see her carry a graceful ivory Anarkali suit from Abhinav Mishra's 'Reflections' collection.

The outfit was reflected with Abhinav's signature floral patterns, Gold Gota and the couturier's signature mirrorwork.

**-ANI**

# PC's secret mantra



Priyanka Chopra, who is in Mumbai to attend the Moving Image (MAMI) film festival. On Sunday, the actress sat down for a masterclass session with Bhumi Pednekar. During the event, Bhumi asked Priyanka about her process of selecting a script. She shared, "My process changes over time, depending upon the circumstances. Like there are times when movies come to me, while there are times when I have to fight and audition for them.

There are times where a movie which I pursue, there are different scenarios. When a script has come to me for my consideration, I will read it for just my character first and to see if the story is interesting. If it is hard to read the script, even if your character is amazing, then I sit with the filmmakers on why it was a hard read. Every wall you hit, you have to solve that first."

Citing an example, without naming the movie, PC added, "There was a particular film that I read about and I really wanted to be a part of. I got my agents to call the filmmakers and offer myself to audition for the movie. I had to do 3 auditions, first was a meeting with the filmmakers, second he came over to my house and did a reading and then the third time we went to the studio and I got the part."

Encouraging people to invest in hard work, Priyanka Chopra added, "I am not afraid of pursuing my dreams and my pride doesn't stand in front of my dreams ever. If you want something, don't let your pride stand in front of you. Ego is the end of everything, hard work, humility and persistence is all you need to be successful in any field. Come from a place of no pride, come from a team, wanting to help others rise instead of wanting to pull others down. Because you are insecure about something and in that feeling, we pull others down. Try to be a leader in your field and you don't have to be on top of your game for that. You have to be an everyday leader, in smaller environments, for your family, for your colleagues. The world needs everyday leaders..."

**-ETimes**

## SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

### Thrilling, but no gore

Crime thrillers usually pack up a lot of violence, crime, and horrific scenes. But director of upcoming thriller Psychic, Pushakara Girigowda, has ensured that no blood and gore is shown in his film. Girigowda, an editor, debuts as an independent director in Sandalwood with this film.

The movie's teaser was released in the presence of retired assistant commissioners of police Sivaram, SK Umesh, and Hanumanthe Gowda. "It is a different kind of crime thriller. I have narrated three types of love episodes in the movie. Though the movie is about crime, it conveys a strong message to society," said Girigowda.

Sardar Satya, Hamsa Prathap, Ramesh Bhat, Aravind are the important cast. Hamsa Prathap expressed her gratitude to director Girigowda for giving her the chance to play a police officer.

### A pleasant feeling

The first look and a promotional video of Aaraam Aravinda Swami was released recently. Abhisekh Shetty, who helmed Gajanana & Gang and Nam Gani B Com Pass, is the director. Anish Tejeswar plays the lead while Milana Nagaraj and Hruthika Srinivas are paired opposite him.

"Every ending leads to a new beginning. I thought it was the end of my acting career after coming across a poor box-office collection of my movie Benki. It made me realise that audiences are expecting different performances from me. I agreed to act in this movie within 15 minutes of hearing the script," said Anish Tejeshwar.

Milana Nagaraj said she was excited when the director narrated the script to her. "I play a different role in this movie. It was a good experience during the shoot and I am eager to watch this movie at the theater," Milana said.

Hruthika Srinivas said this is her second film. "I worked hard to do a good job," said Hruthika.